

THE HIGHWAYMAN.**A Ballad.***With the Original music!*

AS SUNG TO CROWDED AUDIENCES,

By

*Feed me on thee, John Barleycorn,
Thou lang o' grain!*

LEITH.

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THE HIGHWAYMAN.

A Far-mer there liv-ed in fair Der-by-shire, Who kept a good house,—it was
 his de-sire, A pret-ty York-shire boy, to be for his man, To do all his buz-ness,
 his name it was John. Der-ry down ho, down, der-ry down.

One day he called to him, and thus he did say,
 "My pretty man, John, give attention I pray:
 "You must take the Cow this day to the fair,
 "For she is in good order, & her I can spare."

Derry down &c.

The boy went away with the Cow in a Band,
 And came to the Fair, as we understand;
 And when he got there, he met three men,
 And he sold them the Cow, for £6 10.

Derry down &c.

They went to an alehouse, and called for some drink,
 The men then paid the Boy down the chink;
 He called to the Landlady, and thus he did say,
 "Oh; what shall I do with my money, I pray."

Derry down &c.

"I'll sew it within thy coat lining," quo she,
"For fear, on the Road, you robbed should be."
This heard a highwayman, who was drinking Wine,
And who said to himself, "all the money is mine!"

Derry down

The boy went away, and homeward did go;
The highwayman followed him after, also,
And soon overtook him upon the highway,
"Oh! well overtaken, young man," he did say.

Derry down

"Will you get up behind me?" the highwayman said,
"How far go you this way?" he then asked the lad,
"Some two or three miles further, for ought I do know;"
So he got up behind him and away they did go.

Derry down

They rode thus untill they came to a glen,
The highwayman then said, "I must needs tell thee plain,
"Deliver your money without any strife,
"Or else I will take it with thy sweet life."

Derry down

The boy without fear, & void of remorse,
Instantly jumped from the highwayman's horse;
He tore his coat lining, the money pulled out,
And, amongst the long grass, he strewed it about.

Derry down

The highwayman, instantly, jumped from his horse,
But little did he think it was to his loss;
Before he could find all the money, they say,
The boy got on horseback, and galloped away.

Derry down

John coming on horseback, his master did spy,
While he was looking from a window that was high,
He ran down stairs, and cried with a curse,
"What the devil!—has my cow turned into a horse?"

Derry down

"Oh! no, my good master, your cow I well sold,
"I was robbed on the road by a highwayman so bold,
"And while he was putting the money in his purse,
"To make you amends, I came off with his horse."

Derry down

The saddle bags were opened, the money was told,
"Three hundred pounds, of silver and gold.
"A brace of horse pistols," the boy cried I vow,
"So, I think, my good master, I've sold well your cow."

Derry down

The boy for his valour & courage, so rare,
Three fourths of the money he got for his share,
Now, since the highwayman has lost all his store,
He may e'en go rob untill he finds more.

Derry down

The only individual we ever heard sing this ditty, is an old denizen of Leith, well known in the Northern district, particularly amongst the Urchins of the lower classes. The prominent feature of his character is his inordinate love of Whiskey to which he has paid devoted adoration, ever since he was fifteen years of age. His musical powers are by no means first rate, but what he lacks in vocal melody is amply compensated in loud and long vociferations; especially when he has been doing homage at the shrine of the stoup, under the influence of which he is generally four days out of seven. When able, he delights to take a country ride on one of his Arabians, (Cuddies) but the long eared quadruped, displaying more sense than his riders, may be seen galloping homewards, notwithstanding the remonstrances of his elevated, and infuriated, master; and, not unfrequently, the same animal is employed in carrying him home, in a coal cart, surrounded by a host of noisy juvenile attendants, who cease not to molest the scarcely conscious subject of their mirth, but he!

"O'er a' the ill's o' life, victorious,"

is far beyond the reach of their annoyance, and being coupit frae his carriage, is safely deposited

at.



his ain fireside.

